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MEDIA RELEASE

Public Hearing to Examine the Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020

The Joint Select Committee inquiring into the <u>Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020</u> will hold its first public hearing on **Friday 23 October 2020**.

The Bill puts forward amendments to the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977* about discrimination on the ground of a person's religious beliefs or activities and was introduced by the Hon. Mark Latham MLC.

The hearing will be held at NSW Parliament House starting at 9 am and can be viewed online on the NSW Parliament's website.

Chair of the Committee, the Hon. Gabrielle Upton MP, said "This will be the first of several Committee hearings to examine the Bill. Our inquiry will consider whether the objectives of the Bill are valid and, if so, whether the terms of the Bill are appropriate for securing its objectives."

"On Friday, we will hear from a number of key stakeholders including representatives from religious organisations, academics, legal bodies and community groups. The hearing schedule is available for viewing here," Ms Upton said.

Further hearings for the inquiry will be held on Thursday 5 November 2020 and Friday 6 November 2020.

More information about the inquiry, including the inquiry's terms of reference and submissions, is available on the <u>Committee's webpage</u>.

Media contact: The Hon. Gabrielle Upton MP, Committee Chair – (02) 9326 1856.